

FDZ
THRU: ADSO
COMMO

4A-19
17 August 1950

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

The following is extracted from a report by one of my staff officers who recently returned from an inspection trip to [] and is forwarded to you for your information:

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RELATIONS BETWEEN [] AND THE OPERATIONS STAFF

[] complains that the operations staff does not keep him informed of operational planning; that Commo is hit with a requirement at the last minute and that frequently commitments are made which Commo cannot fulfill. The counter to that complaint, of course, is the observation that it should be [] responsibility to assure that he is in on operational planning during the initial stages. However, such an objection is not valid because [] responsibilities are such that he cannot spend the required amount of time with the operational planning staff. He is required to devote his time to details of communications which should be handled by his commo staff (which he does not have).

The fact remains that [] is not kept informed of operational planning. This fact was admitted to me by [] and [] stated that he would make a firm effort to work more closely with [] in the future. Frankly, I doubt that that resolve will be carried through. The statement was made in the presence of [] and I was convinced that it was primarily to impress [] and forestall possible repercussions should [] mentioned the situation to [] I can see only one solution: supply [] with a competent operations planning officer and have FDZ direct that a communications operations officer be included in all discussions of operational plans.

[] stresses that there should be a competent communications officer assigned to him primarily to conduct liaison with [] and to direct [] communications activities. [] has seen the [] representative only once and the [] man apparently has made no effort to contact []

[] was scheduled to go to [] the day after I left. He was taking two operators [] and was to stop off in [] and pick up 3,000 pounds of equipment. [] to be reduced to a standby status with man remaining to take care of equipment. [] to be established as a major sub-base and to take over certain of the [] functions. [] to relay traffic through [] instead of [] FMC traffic which previously was relayed to [] through [] would now be hand delivered to the [] operations man in the form of intelligence reports. He would process and forward such matter as necessary to [] This would eliminate the numerical traffic from []

SECRET

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There are five [] from whom we have been receiving traffic: []

[] communicated via literal and numerical systems to [] via radio to [] and superenciphered to []. In addition they serviced [] and [] upon their periodic trips to []. Both [] had ciphers of their own with []. [] has 4 active pads. Crypto procedure employs a pad indicator (life of pad only). The pad indicator appears as the system indicator on each message and is not repeated. The message indicator is the first group of the next unused line and is not repeated. No keying text confirmation group at end. This applies to both literal and numerical systems. Have to use system indicators because there are so many people involved in the affair down there. All intelligence traffic is numerical. Very little literal traffic originated by [].

[]

At the [] Station I met a former acquaintance who is chief of station at []. He was very unhappy about our failure to activate the [] crypto link. He has moved to new offices which are more secure than previous offices. He has his own safes and the office has frosted windows. He has a communications assistant []. He requests immediate action on activation of the link. I explained that I remembered his request for activation but that I did not remember why action was delayed. We can communicate with him through [] ciphers since he sees the [] chief fairly frequently, but he does not consider that channel an adequate substitute for ciphers of his own. I quite agree. He can handle traffic through [] code room by courier arrangement. He would like a direct Home Office [] link and a [] link. I told him I didn't have authority to approve the latter link, but that I would look into the matter immediately upon my return and either have the Home Office- [] activated or would advise him through [] why it could not be. I also told him I would investigate the possibility of the lateral link and advise him.

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